

Meeting Summary
FUMC Building Committee Report
8.18.08

Committee members are: Brad A'Hearn, Al Beach, Gene Gerber, Suzanne Haehlen, Linda Jenkins (secretary), Linda Kelly, Doug Martin, Kay McGuire, Mike Morgan, Dana Mortensen, Lauren Noble, Tom Padley, Sean Posten, and Jerry Van Dyke (chair).

The Building Committee met on the following dates: 6/23/08, 7/17/08, 7/24/08, 7/31/08, 8/14/08 and 8/21/08.

The following is a listing of activities, discussion points and consensus items to date:

- Time has been spent reviewing the facilities discussions of the past, work by former FUMC facilities study committees, and most recently, the findings presented by the Exploration Committee.
- Based upon the Exploration Committee's recommendations, the Church Council's approval in October, and vote at the February Charge Conference, the FUMC Building Committee approved (7/24/08) the four part mission to... a.) research funding opportunities, b.) hire a design/build firm, c.) purchase land, d.) build a new church ...within the framework of the church's established three supporting missions of worship, fellowship, and growth.
- Communication will be an important function of the committee and strategies are being developed to communicate Building Committee activities to the greater church on a regular and ongoing basis.
- A proposal to the Finance Committee has been developed by the Building Committee (8/14/08) to access church capital campaign dollars for the purpose of consultation and communication. This will require Charge Conference approval.
- The Building met with a real estate professional on 7/31/08 to learn about available properties, costs, and processes required to purchase land for a new church.
- The Building Committee approved a recommendation (8/14/08) to secure the services of a real estate professional to assist in developing a list of available properties within an area to be determined by the Building Committee, subject to approval of the East Central Committee on Church Building and Location, and then ultimately the approval of the greater congregation. No fee will be required to start this process. A realtor's fee is generally negotiated with seller upon purchase of property.
- Information is being reviewed related to fundraising strategies employed by other churches in the Marion/Cedar Rapids area.
- The Building Committee met with Tom Treharne of the City of Marion (8/14/08). He shared information related to plans for development and streets in Marion's northeast quadrant.
- The Building Committee met on 8/28/08. Sub-committee assignments for property acquisition, funding raising/finance, and communication were established. Fundraising strategies were discussed.
- The sub-committee on property acquisition met with a real estate representative to discuss the Exploration Committee's findings regarding the addresses of the FUMC congregation (80%+ live in the northeast Marion quadrant). Properties were identified as locations of interest. The real estate representative will gather information for the committee regarding utilities, price, and general property conditions prior to the September 11 meeting.
- The Building Committee will meet with the East Central Committee on Church Building and Location on September 25.